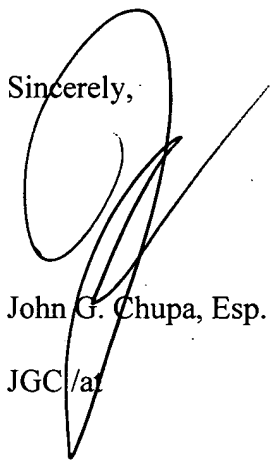


### REMARKS

The Applicant's undersigned Attorney thanks the Examiner for a kind and thorough examination of the pending Application. While it was earnestly believed that the pending Claims were in condition for allowance, the Examiner issued a final rejection of these Claims. The lone Independent Claim 1 has now been additionally amended to delineate the pair of flaps which form the catheter reception cavity and the use of this cavity to allow a catheter to be received and to protrude from the front side of the catheter barrier apparatus. It is again believed that the pending Claims are allowable over all of the art of record, and such allowance is hereby requested. If the Examiner has any questions concerning this matter, she is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at (248)-324-7787.

Sincerely,

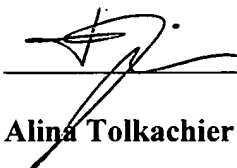


John G. Chupa, Esp.

JGC/al

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Alina Tolkachier, do hereby certify that the foregoing Response to Office Action is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, to the Box Response with Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this day of May 5th, 2004.



---

Alina Tolkachier